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**Inventory for
Manuscript Collection
MS-317**

**McCutcheon Family Papers
Inclusive dates: 1857-1885**

by
Tracy Lamaestra
August 2012

Shelf feet: .25 linear feet
Number of boxes: 1
Accession 94.87.335

**Cataloged as part of the Merchant Mariners Muster Project, funded
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Abstract

McCutcheon Family

Papers, 1857-1885

1 Manuscript size box, (.25 Shelf feet)

Family from Bath, Maine.

Personal papers of the McCutcheon family. Seamen certificates of citizenship for Samuel McCutcheon Jr. and Joseph B. McCutcheon. Collection content also includes McCutcheon correspondence and a Democratic voters canvassing book, Bath, Maine. There are Bryant family papers of correspondence, an estate record and account receipts. The collection is arranged as follows: Series I. McCutcheon Personal Papers and Series II. Bryant Personal Papers.

Donated by Charles E. Burden on November 29, 1994.

MS-317. Accession No. 94.87.335.

Finding aid available in repository; folder-level control.

Added entries—persons:

Bryant, Elizabeth S.

Bryant, Lt. O. C. (Orlando Curtis)

Bryant, S. S. (Samuel Smith)

Hunt, R. (Reuben S.)

McCutcheon, Annie Isabel (Belle)

McCutcheon, Arthur

McCutcheon, Charles W.

McCutcheon, Emma J.

McCutcheon, Elizabeth D. (Lizzie)

McCutcheon, Frederick W.

McCutcheon, John

McCutcheon, Mary E.

McCutcheon, Samuel Jr.

McCutcheon, Samuel Sr.

Oliver, Parker, *Captain*

Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels):

Sarah (schooner)

Added entries—key terms:

Accounts

Administration of Estates

Certificates

Family

Letters

Seafaring

Shipbuilding

Voting

Acquisition

The McCutcheon family papers were donated to the Maine Maritime Museum by Charles E. Burden on November 29, 1994, accession no. 94.87.335.

Provenance

The collection came to the Maine Maritime Museum along with other assorted material (books, serials, catalogs, music, ephemera, misc., magazine prints, photographs, technical drawings and manuscripts) as a gift from Charles E. Burden. The donor purchased these items from dealers through the mail and at antique shows, flea markets, auctions and shops.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials for study or research.

Physical Condition

Papers were folded in small envelopes and loosely organized within folders in an archival box. Most manuscripts are discolored, stained or acidic. Many papers have creases with tearing along fold lines. These were repaired with thin, transparent document repair tape. Papers with creases were flattened and ironed with a tacking iron at low to medium heat. There is a portion missing to a letter (folder 9). A seamen's certificate of citizenship is backed by linen (folder 1). A number of records are fragile and should be handled with care. Fragile documents were sleeved in Melinex or archival Mylar. Acid-free paper/lignin-free paper was placed between many of the papers to preserve writing and for additional support in sleeves.

Processing Notes

MS-317 has no clear compiler. It seems the papers may have been collected by either Joseph B. or Mary E. McCutcheon. However, it is not significant enough to determine. It seems more fitting that the collection be titled the McCutcheon Family Papers.

The collection was sorted into two series: Series I. McCutcheon Personal Papers and Series II. Bryant Personal Papers as there are connections between the different families. The McCutcheon personal papers were further placed into subseries: *Ia. Seaman Certificates of Citizenship*, *Ib. Correspondence*, *Ic. Miscellaneous*. The Seamen Certificates of Citizenship for Samuel McCutcheon Jr. and Joseph B. McCutcheon are the only maritime related documents. The McCutcheon correspondence was placed in alphabetical order by author's first name. The letters were then arranged chronologically within folders. The Democratic voters canvassing book, Bath, Maine, Ward 1 was placed in *Subseries Ic. Miscellaneous*, since Joseph B. McCutcheon is listed in the book. Additionally, Ward 1 is where the McCutcheon family resided in Bath. The Bryant personal papers relate to Samuel S. Bryant. Bryant correspondence was arranged by author, Samuel S. Bryant.

Biographical Notes

MCCUTCHEON FAMILY

Samuel A. McCutcheon Sr.

Samuel A. McCutcheon Sr. was born in 1804 in Tyrone, Ireland to unknown parents.^{1, 6} He first married Hannah (b. 1813-d. 1847) unknown maiden name. They possibly had son, Arthur McCutcheon (b. abt. 1832). Hannah died on September 9, 1847 at 34 years old and is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Bath, Maine.⁷ Samuel's second wife was Mary E. Bryant (b. 1825-d. 1916).^{1, 6} They had children Samuel Jr. (b. 1840-d.?), Charles (b. 1842-d.?), John (b. 1843-d. 1876), Mary E. (b. 1846-d. ?), Joseph (b. 1849-d. 1929), Josephene A. (b. 1852-d. ?), Annie Isabel (b. 1854-d.1940), Elizabeth (b. 1856-d.?), Emma J. (b. 1866-d. 1887), Addie N. (b. 1862-d. 1881) and Frederick W. (b.1862-d.?). Samuel was naturalized on November 13, 1840. The family lived in Bath, Maine. Samuel's occupation was farmer.¹ He died on June 2, 1869 at 65 years old and is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery.⁷

Mary E. McCutcheon

Mary E. McCutcheon was born on September 12, 1826 in Fayette, Maine to Orlando and Elizabeth Bryant. She married Samuel McCutcheon Sr. (b. 1804-d. 1869). They had children Samuel Jr. (b. 1840-d.?), Charles (b. 1842-d.?), John (b. 1843-d. 1876), Mary E. (b. 1846-d. ?), Joseph (b. 1849-d. 1929?), Josephene A. (b. 1852-d. ?), Annie Isabel (b. 1854-d.1940), Elizabeth (b. 1856-d.?), Emma J. (b. 1866-d. 1887), Addie N. (b. 1862-d. 1881) and Frederick (b.1862-d.?). The family lived in Bath, Maine. Mary E. died on March 24, 1916 and is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Bath, Maine.^{1, 6}

Arthur McCutcheon

Arthur McCutcheon was born about 1832 in Maine to Samuel A. McCutcheon Sr. and most likely Hannah (b. 1813-d. 1847) unknown maiden name. Hannah was the first wife to Samuel and died on September 9, 1847. Arthur is listed as 18 years old and living with the Samuel and Mary E. McCutcheon family in the 1850 U.S. Federal Census in Bath, Maine. Mary E. McCutcheon was the second wife to Samuel. A letter on May 2, 1865 confirms Samuel A. McCutcheon Sr. was the father of Arthur. This letter was addressed "Dear Father" and written to Samuel A. McCutcheon and then signed "from your son Arthur A. McCutcheon." Furthermore, the 1860 Federal Census lists Arthur's birthdate about 1838. An accurate birthdate for Arthur cannot be confirmed. In 1860, Arthur still lived in Bath and worked as a carpenter. He was married to Margaret at this time with a newborn son, Charles.^{1, 8}

Samuel McCutcheon Jr.

Samuel McCutcheon Jr. was born in November 1840 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. He married Hannah E. (b. 1833-d.?). He had a step daughter, Lizzie Pope, who took the McCutcheon name by 1900.¹ Lizzie may have been Hannah's daughter. Samuel was a seaman in Bath, Maine in 1857.² He was also a day laborer in Bath in 1860 and then a ship carpenter in Kennebunkport, Maine in 1870-1900.¹

Charles W. McCutcheon

Charles W. McCutcheon was born about December 1842 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. He married Mary Christian (b.? -d.?). They had children Edwin W., Charles, Walter and George. In 1860, he was single and a farm laborer in Bath, Maine. Charles was drafted into the Civil War on July 1, 1863 at 20 years old. He farmed with his father in Bath, 1868. The family lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1870 where Charles worked in a carpenter shop. They also resided in Hillsborough, New Hampshire where he was a carpenter as well. His wife was in the final stages of consumption when the 1880 census was taken. He married Miranda E. Emerson (b. 1843-d.?) on June 6, 1899. They lived in York, Maine in 1900 where he worked as a carpenter. He was stepfather to Miranda's son, Walter L. Emerson also the head of household.¹

John McCutcheon

John McCutcheon was born about 1843/44 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. He was a farm laborer in Bath, Maine at age 16. He enlisted in the Civil War as a Private at 18 years of age in Company D, Maine 7th Infantry Regiment on August 22, 1861. According to American Civil War records, he mustered out on January 7, 1863. Another Civil War record states he deserted Company D on January 7, 1863. At 25, he lived in Kennebunkport and worked as a laborer. He may have been married to Frances McCutcheon at this time (1870). John died on November 12, 1876 and is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Bath, Maine.^{1, 6}

Joseph B. McCutcheon

Joseph B. McCutcheon was born in December 1849 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant.^{4, 6} He married Albertina P. Cook (b. 1867-d. 1915) on November 28, 1888.³ They had children Harold R. (b. 1890-d.?), Samuel H. (b. 1892-d.?), Lillian (b. 1894-d.?) and Charlotte M. (b. 1895-d.?). They lived in Bath, Maine. Joseph was a seaman in 1866 and then a farmer in 1880, 1900-1920.^{1, 9} Joseph died on February 13, 1929 and is buried at Oak Grove Cemetery in Bath, Maine.⁶

Annie Isabel McCutcheon

Annie Isabel McCutcheon was born in 1855 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. She was known as "Belle." She married Herbert Willis Nye on October 1872 in Franklin, Massachusetts. Her husband was a bookkeeper in 1880 and then a superintendent (1900-1910) and worker (1920) in a straw factory. They had children Jesse Marion (b. 1875-d. 1958), Florence C. (b. 1877-d.?) and Winthrop Bryant (b. 1877-d. 1910). She resided with her family in Franklin in 1880 and Upton, Massachusetts, 1900-1940. Annie died in 1940 in Franklin.¹

Elizabeth (Lizzie) D. McCutcheon

Elizabeth McCutcheon was born in 1856 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. She lived in Bath, Maine and worked in a straw shop in 1880 (a straw shop is one who deals in hay and straw). She was known as "Lizzie."¹ She married Perry Adams in Bath on October 3, 1888.³ They lived in Upton, Massachusetts in 1900. Her spouse was a farmer. Lizzie died sometime before 1910 as the 1910 U. S. Federal Census reveals Perry was widowed.¹

Emma J. McCutcheon

Emma J. McCutcheon was born in 1860 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. She lived in Bath, Maine and worked in a straw shop in 1880.¹ Emma J. died on October 8, 1887 and is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery, Bath, Maine.⁶

Frederick W. McCutcheon

Fred W. McCutcheon was born about 1867 in Maine to Samuel McCutcheon and Mary E. Bryant. He lived in Bath, Maine as a child. The 1910 U. S. Federal Census documents a Fred W. McCutcheon lived in Providence, Rhode Island and worked as a pattern maker in a shop. The 1920 Federal Census shows he was single, resided in Boston and worked as a pattern maker in a foundry. The 1930 Federal Census records him as single, in Boston and employed as a carpenter turning wood. In 1940, he was a patient in the Boston State Hospital.¹

BRYANT FAMILY

S. S. (Samuel Smith) Bryant

Samuel Smith Bryant was born in 1826 in Fayette, Maine to Orlando Totman Bryant (b. 1801) and Elizabeth "Betsey" Smith (b. abt. 1806). His siblings were Orlando Curtis (b. 1828), John Lennon (b. 1837) and Dexter Waterman (b. 1838) and Mary E. (b. 1826-d. 1916). He was a laborer in Bath in 1850. In 1885, he worked with his brother Dexter as a clerk in Portland, Maine. He resided with Mrs. Samuel A. McCutcheon (Mary E. Bryant) in Bath, Maine in 1887. In 1900, Samuel lived with the Joseph B. McCutcheon family in Bath and then in Lisbon, Maine with brother, Dexter, in 1910 when 82 years old. He died in 1914 in Lewiston, ME.¹

Lieutenant O. C. (Orlando Curtis) Bryant

Orlando Curtis Bryant was born in 1828 in Fayette, Maine to Orlando Totman Bryant (b. 1801) and Elizabeth "Betsey" Smith (b. abt 1806). His siblings were Samuel Smith (b. 1826), John Lennon (b. 1837), Dexter Waterman (b. 1838) and Mary Elizabeth (b. 1826-d. 1916). He married Jennie [Cushen]. They had a daughter Grace D. (b. abt. 1850-1854).¹

Orlando's career was in the military. The American Civil War Soldiers records reveal Orlando Bryant enlisted as a Corporal on June 17, 1863 in Company B, 2nd Infantry Regiment Kentucky. He was immediately promoted to 2nd Lieutenant that same day. He mustered out on June 19, 1864 at Covington, Kentucky. On August 11, 1864, Bryant enlisted as a Private and served the New Hampshire Union. He transferred out of Company U, 11th Infantry Regiment New Hampshire and into Company G, 1st Heavy Artillery Regiment New Hampshire. He mustered out of Company G, 1st Heavy Artillery Regiment New Hampshire on June 9, 1865. He returned to the Kentucky Union and was promoted to full captain on November 30, 1865 and commissioned in the 117th Infantry Regiment U. S. Colored Troops where he mustered out on August 18, 1867.¹

Records are unclear as to where and when Bryant died. However, United States Federal Census shows that in 1870, his wife Jennie and daughter Grace lived in Manchester, New Hampshire.¹

Elizabeth S. Bryant

Elizabeth Smith Bryant was born to unknown parents in 1806 in Fayette, Maine. She married Orlando Totman Bryant Sr. (b. 1801) in March 1824 in Fayette, Maine. They had children Samuel Smith (b. 1826), Orlando Curtis (b. 1828), John Lennon (b. 1837), Dexter Waterman (b. 1838) and Mary Elizabeth (b. 1826-d. 1916). They lived in West Bath, Maine in 1850.¹ Elizabeth was also known as Betsey Smith. She died on August 3, 1863 in Bath and was buried in Fayette, Maine.⁵

Note: McCutcheon-Bryant connection. The 1850 U. S. Census records indicate the McCutcheon and Bryant families were neighbors in West Bath, Maine, 1850. The Bryant daughter, Mary Elizabeth Bryant, (daughter of Orlando Totman Bryant) married Samuel A. McCutcheon Sr.¹ Samuel Smith Bryant resided with Mrs. Samuel A. McCutcheon (Mary Elizabeth) in 1887 and then Joseph B. McCutcheon in 1900. Orlando Bryant Sr. was a millwright and the McCutcheon brothers were local carpenters and laborers. Industry such as the local Winnegance tide mills may have also connected these two families via employment.

References cited:

1. <http://ancestry.com>
2. MS-317. Folder 1. Seaman Certificates of Citizenship.
3. <http://familysearch.org>.
4. MS-317. Folder 2. Seaman Certificates of Citizenship.
5. MS-317. Folder 7. Correspondence, 1863.
6. <http://www.findagrave.com>.
7. Maple Grove Cemetery, Bath, Maine. Employee, Craig Cunningham.
8. MS-317. Series Ib. Folder 3. Letter, May 5, 1865.
9. MS-317, Series Ia. Folder 2. Seaman Certificate of Citizenship.

Scope and Content Notes

This is a small collection with only two maritime related documents. These are seaman certificates of citizenship for Samuel McCutcheon Jr. (1857) and Joseph B. McCutcheon (1866). The bulk of the collection is McCutcheon family personal correspondence. Letters pertain to Samuel Sr. (father), Mary E. (mother), Samuel Jr. (son), Joseph B. (son) Belle (Annie Isabel, daughter), Arthur (son), Charles W. (son), Emma (daughter), Fred (son) and Lizzie (Elizabeth, daughter). The letters document illness (scarlet fever, canker rash) and death of neighbors, friends and family. They record farm life, holidays, dances, boxing, marriage, worries, homesickness, religious views, female virtue, courting, debt and land sale.

In particular, Mary A. McCutcheon (mother) writes about her children courting (folder 6). On December 6, 1868, she writes that Charles W. travels to Boston to see Mary Christan who he will marry in two to three weeks. Mary also writes on December 13, 1868 that a young man from Portland has a fancy for Josephene and Bell has a suitor named Frank. Mary writes on March 2, 1879 that Kervin called Saturday night for Addie. Kervin took Addie and her friend May to a dance. Kervin and Addie were also at a dance in Winnegance.

Charles W. McCutcheon writes about female virtue in a letter to his mother on December 28, 1864 (folder 4):

“Mother it may be that you do not know the influence a woman has over a young man to do evil especially a woman that is prone to evil herself I have observed more of human nature sence I left home that before it appears to me that woman has a stronger will and more power to control there own actions than has man but when woman strays from the paths of virtue She is to be pitied I am a frad there is many very many young girls that are not brought up as they Should be and since I have been from home I have often thought of Eliza if She Should go a stray Mother do try and give her good advice now is the time of her life that She needs it if She wanders now from the path of virtue a life of misery is before her it may be that you do not realize that the snares of temptation that is before a young girl entering the world.”

Mary E. McCutcheon writes on November 8, 1868 (folder 6) about the remodel of her home as well as the burning of the local mill due to Mr. Weber tossing a match in the building after lighting his pipe. In several of the letters, Mary E. McCutcheon and Belle both write to Joseph in the same correspondence. Mary E. writes to Joseph on December 13, 1868 (folder 6) asking if he can spare her two dollars, so she can get a *“new calico dress as she only has one dress and cannot keep it clean.”* In another letter written by Mary E. on December 6, 1868 (folder 6) to Joseph, she remarks about Captain Parker Oliver and R. Hunt building a small vessel in the captain’s field behind the meeting house. In further research on this information, I discovered the schooner *Sarah* was built in 1869 in Bath by Reuben S. Hunt with P. H. Oliver as master.¹

A distressed Arthur A. McCutcheon writes to father (Samuel Sr.) on May 5, 1865 (folder 3) from Lennoxville [Quebec] about a financial problem:

“I want you to send me some money do for the love of heaven send me one hundred dollars O if you only knew just how I am situated you would not hesitate one moment I am in trouble . . . do not delay for I am in fever until you answer if you knew the consequence you would hesitate answer amediatly.”

Furthermore, on December 13, 1868 (folder 6) Mary E. remarks in a letter about father (Samuel Sr.) getting money for Arthur via a note. In a letter dated March 7, 1871, Samuel Jr. inquires about why family property was sold as there was debt against 650 acres, yet the family planned to sell 1200 acres. (folder 7). It is unclear about the particulars on Arthur’s troubles, but the family tried to help him.

Charles W. McCutcheon writes to mother when in Tangier, Nova Scotia on February 6, 1865 (folder 4). He remarks his brother John was found in a Texas prison and had enlisted (Civil War) in New Hampshire. The letter also confirms Charles W. worked in a mine. He witnessed the death of worker Kenneth McDonald falling down a 100’ shaft.

A telegraph from Charles to Lizzie on November 12, 1876 states that John died and the funeral is Tuesday (folder 4). This is their brother John McCutcheon.

In addition to the McCutcheon papers are the Bryant family papers. There is correspondence written to Lt. O. C. (Orlando Curtis) Bryant from someone who I believe to be his brother Samuel Smith Bryant. A large portion of this document is missing. This writer announces the death of their mother to Lt. Bryant (folder 9). The estate record for their mother,

Elizabeth S. Bryant, records S. S. (Samuel Smith) Bryant as involved in settling her estate (folder 10). There are personal invoices and receipts for Samuel S. Bryant dated 1857 and 1861 (folder 11).

Lastly, a Democratic voter canvassing book was found in this collection which records Democratic voters in Ward 1 of Bath, Maine. Joseph B. McCutcheon is listed in this book living on High Street, farmer occupation. A small paper was located in this book, which dates it to the 1860s (folder 8).

The envelope the collection came in when donated to the museum is located with the supporting documents.

Reference

1. Baker, William Avery. *A Maritime History of Bath, Maine and the Kennebec River Region*. Vol. II. Bath, Maine: Maine Research Society of Bath, 1973.

Series Description

Series I. McCutcheon Personal Papers (n. d., 1857-1876)

Ia. Seaman Certificates of Citizenship: This includes seaman certificates of citizenship for Samuel McCutcheon Jr., 1857 and Joseph B. McCutcheon, 1866.

Ib. Correspondence: McCutcheon family letters written by Arthur, Charles W., Frederick W., Mary E. and Samuel Jr.

Ic. Miscellaneous: Democratic voters canvassing book, Bath, Maine, Ward 1.

Series II. Bryant Personal Papers (1857, 1861-1864)

Samuel S. Bryant: This includes a correspondence, 1863, to Lt. O. C. (Orlando Curtis) Bryant. There is also a document regarding the estate of Elizabeth S. Bryant, 1864. Lastly, are accounts of personal invoices and receipts for Samuel S. Bryant, 1857 and 1861.

**MS-317 McCutcheon Family Papers
Container List**

Box# Folder#

Series I. McCutcheon Personal Papers

Ia. Seaman Certificates of Citizenship

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Samuel McCutcheon, Jr., 1857 |
| | 2 | Joseph B. McCutcheon, [1866] |

Ib. Correspondence

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Arthur McCutcheon, 1865 |
| 4 | Charles W. McCutcheon. n.d., 1864-1865, 1876 |
| 5 | Frederick W. McCutcheon, 1885 |
| 6 | Mary E. McCutcheon, 1868, 1879 |
| | Includes notations by Belle (Annie Isabel), Nov. 31 and Dec. 13, 1868 |
| 7 | Samuel McCutcheon Jr., n.d., 1871 |

Ic. Miscellaneous

- | | |
|---|--|
| 8 | Democratic voters canvassing book, Bath, ME, Ward 1 [1860's] |
|---|--|

Series II. Bryant Personal Papers

Samuel S. Bryant

- | | |
|----|--|
| 9 | Correspondence, [Samuel S. Bryant], 1863 |
| 10 | Document re: Estate of Elizabeth S. Bryant, 1864 |
| 11 | Accounts—personal items, receipts, 1857, 1861 |